

The Chickasaw Nation



Governor Bill Anoatubby



Lt. Governor Jefferson Keel

“Unconquered and Unconquerable”

Prior to European Contact

- Highly Respected: Self Reliant, Fierce Warriors
- Tribal Governments Organized to Provide Safety
- Culture Based on Land Ownership and Clan Structure
- Tribe Engaged in Agriculture and Trade
- Tribes were free to Migrate, Many Engaged in Trade



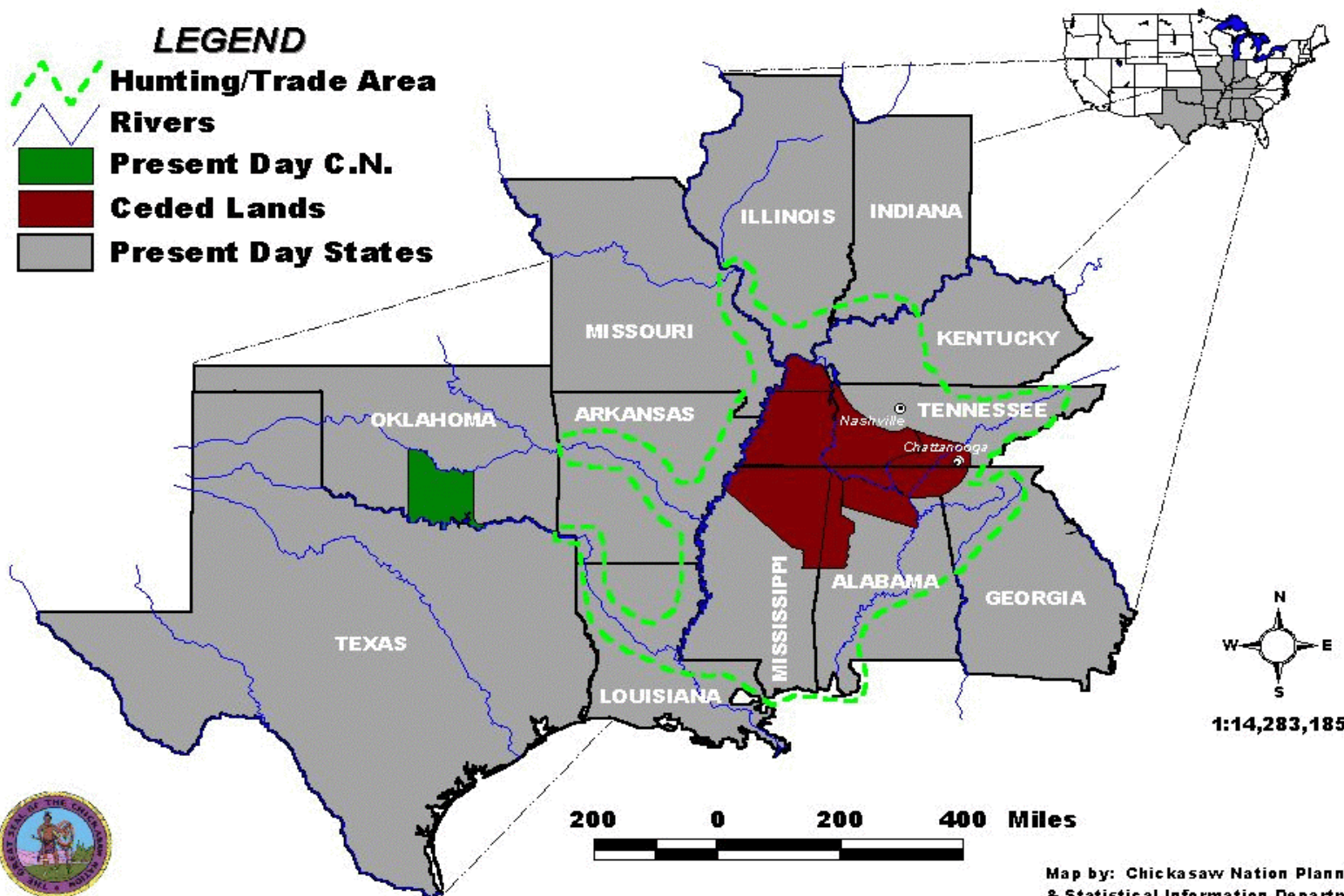
After European Contact

- Welcome Europeans
- Indians in the Way
- Tribal Land Base Too Large to Protect
- Trade Centers Opened Among Tribes
- Tribes Lacked Currency and Ceded lands to Settle Debts



Historical Locations of The Chickasaw Nation

- LEGEND**
-  Hunting/Trade Area
 -  Rivers
 -  Present Day C.N.
 -  Ceded Lands
 -  Present Day States



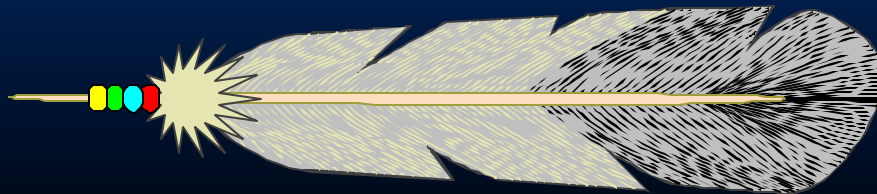
Map by: Chickasaw Nation Planning
& Statistical Information Department,
John Ellis, 12/01/00(rv).

Loss of Culture

- Intermarriages Damage the Clan Structure
- Ceded Lands Result in Sacred and Burial Sites Lost
- “Establish among the Chickasaws a factory for furnishing them with all the necessities and comforts they may wish (Spiritous liquors excepted), encouraging them and especially their leading men, to run into debt for these beyond their individual means of paying; and whenever in that situation, they will always cede lands to rid themselves of debt.”

Thomas Jefferson

- Missionaries Attempted to “Civilize” Indians by “Removing” Tribal Culture.



Indian Removal Act of 1830: Loss of Clan Structure

- Removal vs. Abandonment
- Southeast Tribes Forced Removal to Oklahoma – Tribes Lost All Lands
- Cultural Centers No Longer Exist
- Burial Sites Not Recorded During Removal
- Other Tribes Ceded Lands – Forced Migration
- Tribes in Oklahoma Forced to Make Room for Other Tribes



Protection of Cultural and Religious Sites

- Scientists and Looters Destroy Sacred Sites
- Federal Laws and Executive Orders designed to Protect Graves, Return Stolen Artifacts, and Ensure Consultation
- Federal Laws Recognize Sovereignty and Promote Cultural Identity
- Intertribal Coalitions Formed to Protect Sovereignty and Promote Unity



Concerns/Issues

- Historically, Military Leaders Insensitive to Tribal Customs and Cultures
- Most Native Americans Consider Burial Sites Sacred: Tribes want to Protect the Integrity of Burial Sites
- Consultation Mandated by Federal Laws, but Not Cooperative and Often Ignored
- Lack of Respect Among Scientific Community for Native Customs



Solutions

- **Develop Curriculum to Educate and Train Leaders in Historic Preservation**
- **Appoint Native Americans to Installation Cultural Resources Positions**
- **Respect and Enforce Federal Laws and Regulations**
- **Develop Collaborative Agreements among Agencies and Tribes (i.e.: Fort Benning and Mississippi Nation Guard)**
- **Scientific Community Attempt to Respect Tribal Customs and Beliefs**
- **Consultations Must be Inclusive and Cooperative to be Successful**

